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SEVENTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Church of the Covenant,
PHILADELPHIA.

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OF THE
Church of the Covenant,
PHILADELPHIA.

PRESENTED TO THE CONGREGATION,

MAY, 1874,

BY


THE RECTOR.

PHILADELPHIA:

HENRY B. ASHMEAD, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,

Nos. 1102 & 1104 Sansom Street,

1874.

 The pages of these Annual Reports are printed continuously, so that those who wish to preserve a Complete History of the Church of the Covenant, may have them bound together in book form.

VESTRY.

The following named gentlemen compose the Vestry of the Church of the Covenant, elected on Easter Monday, April 6, 1874.

JOHN P. RHOADS,
Rector's Warden.

JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK,
Accounting Warden.

HENRY N. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.

GEORGE BOYD,
Treasurer of Benevolent Fund.

ROBERT REED,

PAUL G. OLIVER,

JOHN TANGUY,

CHARLES G. SOWER,

DR. WILLIAM GOODELL,

JAMES C. ALLEN,

WILLIAM SCOTT,

JACOB H. LEX.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE VESTRY.

COMMITTEE ON MUSIC.

THE RECTOR, *ex officio*.
JOHN P. RHOADS,
JAMES C. ALLEN.

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

JOHN TANGUY,
GEORGE BOYD,
JACOB H. LEX.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

CHARLES G. SOWER,
ROBERT REED,
HENRY N. WILLIAMS.

LAY DEPUTIES.

JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK,
JOHN P. RHOADS,
JAMES C. ALLEN.

SEXTON.

ROBERT SLOAN.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

MARRIAGES.

I officiated at *eighteen* during the year.

BAPTISMS.

I baptized *five* adults and *nineteen* infants.

CONFIRMATIONS.

On Sunday morning, February 1, 1874, the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, confirmed *nine* persons, as follows:

MILTON BIRCH,	FANNIE V. HOFFMAN,
EMMA C. BARNES,	JANIE STEWART,
LAURA A. BARNES,	MARY STEWART,
RUTH V. HALL,	MARY W. MILLER,
MRS. MARGARET LEVERING.	

COMMUNICANTS.

The list of Communicants published in the Twelfth Annual Report (being the last list published), was printed as I found it when I took charge of the Church, upon it as the

basis the number of Communicants was estimated at about 400 (395 being the exact number); 106 persons whose names there appeared, are entirely unknown to me; they have no doubt been at some time connected with the Church, but have severed their connection with us without having their names erased from the Parish Register. After removing their names we have 289 persons actually Communicants of the Church upon the publication of the Twelfth Annual Report, May, 1869. During the last five years 18 of that number have entered the Church triumphant; 91 have removed from our midst, leaving 180 Communicants of the list of 1869 as still retaining their membership with us. In the interval 138 persons have united with our Church by confirmation or letter, 114 of whom still continue with us, making the present number of Communicants 294, as follows:

Jane Acheson,
 William Algeo,
 Mrs. Jane Algeo,
 James C. Allen,
 Mrs. Catherine Allen,
 Levina Anderson,

Mrs. Jane Atkinson,
 Katie L. Atkinson.

Mrs. E. R. Barnes,
 Laura A. Barnes,
 Joseph Barton,

Mrs. C. M. Barton,
 Mrs. Lena Beck,
 Eliza Beck,
 Fannie A. Bell,
 Louisa Birch,
 Sarah Birch,
 Milton Birch,
 Amelia C. Bisbing,
 Mrs. Eliza Black,
 Williard T. Block,
 George Boyd,
 Mrs. Burnetta Boyd,
 W. Livingston Boyd,
 Eliza Jane Boyd,
 Mrs. Catherine Broadbent,
 Hiram Brower,
 Mrs. Augusta Brower,
 Mrs. Sarah R. Bull,
 William L. Bull,
 Anne Bull,
 Martha C. Burns,

 Jane Carey,
 Mrs. Matilda Carney,
 Ann Clark,
 Robert Clarkson,
 Mrs. Catherine Clarkson,
 Maria W. Clarkson,
 Gertrude A. Clarkson,
 John W. Clarkson,
 James Clifford,
 Mrs. Lydia Conover,
 Mrs. Robert Cook,
 Lizzie Cooper,
 William Coyle,
 Mrs. Mary Coyle,
 Eliza Crawford,
 Philip Crofton,
 Mrs. Emily Crofton,
 William B. Crooks,

Mrs. Mary M. Crooks,
 Mrs. Margaret Cross,
 William Cross,
 + Matilda Cross,
 Mrs. S. Cunningham,
 Mary A. Curry,
 John Curtis,
 Mrs. Elizabeth Curtis.

Mrs. John Darrach,
 Mary A. Dickson,
 Ella J. Dobbins,
 George Doherty,
 Helen Dougherty,
 + Mrs. Mary A. Drysdale,
 Charles W. Dunlap,
 Emma Dunlap,
 Sarah Dunlap,
 William J. Dunlap,
 Jane Dunn,
 John Durham,
 Mrs. S. J. Durham.

Mrs. Emily M. Edwards.

Mrs. Catherine Fisher,
 Mrs. Emma Fisher,
 Hannah C. Franklin,
 Alexander Feel.

Mrs. Jane Galbraith,
 Sarah Garrett,
 James Glasspool,
 James Glasspool, Jr.,
 Mary Glasspool,
 Dr. Wm. Goodell,
 Mrs. Caroline Goodell,
 Mrs. Margery Gordon,
 Joseph Gregson,
 Mrs. Joseph Gregson,
 Mary Grey.

Isabel Hagerty,
 Ruth V. Hall,
 Samuel Harlan,
 Ada Hemphill,
 Mrs. Rebecca K. Henderson,

Isabel E. Henderson,
 Mrs. Jane Hinton,
 Fannie V. Hoffman,
 Hannah Hunter,
 Mary Hunter,
 Margaret Hutchinson,
 Mary Hutchinson,
 Rebecca Hutchinson.

Mary J. Irwin,
 Margaret Irwin,
 Mrs. Jane Irwin,
 Mrs. Rachel Irwin.

Katie Jackson,
 Martha A. Jackson,
 Mrs. Mary James,
 Rebecca James,
 Caleb Jones,
 Mrs. Mary A. Jones,
 George G. Jones,
 Annie Jones,
 Mary C. Jones.

Elizabeth Keely,
 Mrs. Annie Kees,
 Catherine Kees,
 Elizabeth Kees,
 Margaret Kees,
 Rebecca Kees,
 Mrs. Catharine Kennedy,
 Mrs. Sarah J. Kerr,
 Mary A. Keys,
 Mrs. Sallie E. Keyser,

James A. Kirkpatrick,
 Mrs. S. E. Kirkpatrick,
 Ellen Kirkpatrick,
 Mrs. Mary Kirkpatrick,
 Hugh Kirkpatrick,
 Mrs. M. A. Kirkpatrick,
 Lizzie D. Knight,
 Mrs. Magdalena Krim-
 mell.

Mrs. Fanny Laughlin,
 Annie Laughlin,
 Mrs. Amelia Lavender,
 Robert Laws,
 Mrs. Anna F. Lex,
 Jacob H. Lex,
 Mrs. Ursula R. Lex,
 Mrs. Margaret Levering,
 Mary Lieper,
 Mary Little,
 Henrietta C. Long,
 Maria E. Lourd.
 Mrs. Martha S. Lutz.

Agnes Y. Macallister,
 Alicia H. Macauley,
 John Macauley,
 Mrs. Eliz. Macauley,
 Mrs. Jane Martin,
 Mrs. Margery MacTurk,
 James McAllister,
 Mrs. McClaram,
 Mrs. Jane McCandless,
 P. McCormick,
 Mrs. Jane McCormick,
 Mrs. Sarah J. McEddoo,
 Martha McGee,
 Mrs. Elizabeth McGirr,
 Mrs. Mary McGregor,
 Mrs. Ellen McKay

Susan McKay,
 Annie McKeague,
 Mary McKeague,
 Mrs. Margaret McKnight,
 Mary McMullan,
 Rose McMullan,
 Rebecca McMullan,
 Jane McNary,
 Catherine Mecouch,
 Rebecca Mecouch,
 Marshall T. Meigs.
 Annie R. Miller,
 Emily R. Miller,
 Mary W. Miller,
 Mrs. Martha Milliken,
 Elizabeth Montgomery,
 William H. Moore,
 Mrs. William H. Moore,
 Mary J. Moore,
 Rebecca J. Moore,
 Mrs. Mary Morrison,
 Rosina R. Morrison,
 Kate Murgatroyd,
 William Murphy,
 Mrs. Esse J. Murphy,
 Elizabeth A. Murphy,
 Annie Murray,
 Lizzie Murray,
 Mrs. Louisa J. C. Murray.

 Jane Nagle,
 Mary I. Natt,
 Josephine Natt,
 Mary Neill,
 Mrs. Maria Newell,
 Emma J. Newell,
 Mary Newell,
 Robert Nixon,
 Mrs. Catherine A. Nixon,
 Sarah J. Nixon.

Paul G. Oliver,
 Frances Oliver,
 Rebecca Oliver,
 Robert Outhwaite.

Eliza Parr,
 Ann W. Pearsall,
 Mary Pearsall,
 Maria V. Peck,
 Mrs. Elizabeth Perry,
 Mary A. Pratt,
 Mrs. Margaret Preston.

Emily Rafsnyder,
 Mrs. Mary C. P. Read,
 Robert Reed,
 Mrs. L. Reed,
 James T. Reynolds,
 Mrs. Sarah Reynolds,
 Martha Reynolds,
 John P. Rhoads,
 Mrs. R. J. Rhoads,
 Walter Rhoads,
 Mrs. Sallie Rhoads,
 Mrs. Charles Ricardo.
 Mrs. Emma L. Ricardo,
 Mrs. Mary Richards,
 Rachel B. Richards,
 George N. Richardson,
 Phoebe A. Robbins,
 Mrs. Mary Robinson,
 Harriet L. Rodgers,
 John Ryan,
 Mrs. Isabella Ryan

Mrs. Caroline C. Sawtell,
 Mary E. Sawtell,
 William Scott,
 Mrs. D. H. Shedaker,
 Thomas Sheridan.

Mrs. Eleanor A. Simes,
 Mrs. Mary A. Sims,
 Wm. J. Simon, M.D.,
 Mrs. Anna J. Simon,
 Mary A. Simon,
 Florence A. Simon,
 Lillie J. Simon,
 Robert Sloan,
 Mrs. Sloan,
 Emma N. Smith,
 Mrs. Isabel Smith,
 Lavinia Smith,
 Charles G. Sower,
 Mrs. C. A. P. Sower,
 Hannah L. Speakman,
 Elizabeth Speakman,
 William Spence,
 Margaret Spence,
 Mrs. M. A. Stewart,
 Joseph Stewart,
 Henry Stewart,
 Mrs. Mary Stewart,
 Martha Stewart,
 Maggie Stewart,
 Janie Stewart,
 Mary Stewart,
 Eliza Swanston,
 Nancy Sweeny.

John Tanguy,
 Margaret A. Tanguy,

Mrs. Thomas N. Taylor,
 Mary Thomas,
 Mrs. Charles Treichel,
 Mrs. Elizabeth Troutman,
 Elizabeth Troutman,
 Martha Troutman,
 Mrs. Catherine G. Tyng.

Mrs. Matilda B. Van
 Roden,
 William S. Vaux,
 Mrs. E. G. Vaux.

Mrs. Eliza Wanner,
 Margaret Warnock,
 Mrs. Ellen Watson,
 Mrs. Mary A. Waugh,
 Mrs. Mary Westcott,
 Charlotte W. Wetherill,
 Charlotte E. Wikoff,
 Henry N. Williams,
 Mrs. Ella Williams,
 Margaret L. Williams,
 Mary A. Williams,
 Margaret Williams,
 Mary Williams,
 Lizzie Williams,
 Mrs. Catherine Williams,
 Sarah Wisely,
 Mrs. Louisa Worley,
 Benjamin P. Wrigley.

It is always an exceedingly difficult matter to revise the Communion List of a church, even with the greatest care some mistakes are likely to occur; if I have omitted the names of any of the Communicants, I will take it as

a favor to be informed of the fact, and will at once enter any omissions on the Church Register, and publish them as a supplement to the List in the next Annual Report.

FUNERALS.

Of these there have been *thirteen* of adults, and *five* of children.

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

MR. H. N. WILLIAMS, *Superintendent.*

MR. W. L. BOYD, *Treasurer.*

MR. R. GRIFFITHS, *Librarian.*

MR. G. KIRKPATRICK, *Assistant Librarian.*

MISS A. C. BISBING, *Secretary.*

Three meetings of the Association have been held during the year. Number on the roll at present, 6 honorary, 8 contributing, and 10 male and 23 female active members.

The statistics of the Sunday-school, taken from the Superintendent's report for January, are as follows:

1	Superintendent,	
1	Librarian,	
1	Assistant Librarian,	
6	Male Teachers,	
23	Female Teachers,	
54	Boys in Intermediate School,	
101	Girls	" " "
73	Infant School,	
27	In Male Bible Classes,	
30	In Female	" "

Making a total of 32 officers and teachers, and

285 scholars, divided into 8 boys' classes, 15 girls', 2 male and 2 female Bible classes, and the Infant School.

The Christmas Festival was held on Tuesday evening, Dec. 30th, and was a joyous occasion to the scholars, teachers and friends of the school.

The Anniversary Services were held Jan. 18th, 1874, and were conducted by the Rector, Rev. Chas. E. Murray. The emblem was a rock, painted on canvas, surmounted by a shield bearing a cross, which was kindly loaned for the occasion by the Sunday-school of the Church of the Atone-ment. The text was, "That *Rock* was *Christ*." 1 Corinth. x. part of 4th verse.

Prizes were awarded to 20 scholars for having brought in new scholars; to 13, for being most punctual in attendance, and to 10 for being present at every session of the school.

We regret to state, that owing to a change of residence to an inconvenient distance from the Church, Mr. Alexander Kirkpatrick, who has been identified with the Church since its foundation, and who has faithfully served in the school for six years as Superintendent, has been obliged to resign his position, which resignation was accepted at the annual meeting, April 13th; and as a token of esteem, he was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Association.

As a parting memorial of respect and affection, a committee waited on him, and, on behalf of the teachers, presented him with a silver ice-pitcher and goblets.

Mr. H. N. Williams was unanimously elected to the vacant Superintendency, and he has kindly accepted.

Mr. W. L. Boyd was unanimously elected Treasurer of the Association.

No other changes in the officers.

It pains us to note the death of our first honorary member, Rev. James Pratt, second Rector of this Church; also, that of Mrs. Elizabeth Birch and Miss Maggie J. Macauley, both contributing members.

One glance at this Report will tell the deficiency of our school—want of male teachers. Men of the Church! come and help us in the good work of trying to be instrumental in leading young souls to *Jesus*, remembering the promise, “They that be wise (marginal reading, *teachers*), shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever.”

A. C. BISBING,

Secretary.

Treasurer's Report.

RECEIPTS.

From dues from members,	.	.	.	\$44	00
" two Stereopticon Exhibitions,	.	.	.	114	95
" Christmas Festival,	.	.	.	20	12
" Contributions,	.	.	.	113	75
" Sunday-school offerings,	.	.	.	450	51
" Interest on above from Saving Fund,	2	.	.	11	
Balance on hand, April 1st, 1873,	24	.	.	69	
					<hr/>
					\$770 13
					<hr/>

PAYMENTS.

By Cash Stereopticon Exhibition,	.	.	.	\$50	00
" Chorister,	.	.	.	137	50
" Christmas Festival,	.	.	.	4	77
" Anniversary Expenses,*	.	.	.	29	00
" Books and Periodicals, on acc't,	75	.	.	72	
" Ground Rent of the Church,	135	.	.	33	
" Principal of Ground Rent,	20	.	.	00	
" American Sunday-School Union,	30	.	.	00	
" Indian Hope,	50	.	.	00	
" Home for the Homeless,	25	.	.	00	
" Evangelical Educational Society,	50	.	.	00	
" American Church Miss'y Society,	30	.	.	00	

Carried forward, . \$637 32

* This amount was contributed by the Emblem Committee.

	Brought forward, .	\$637 32
By Cash	Zenana Mission,	20 00
"	Bible Society,	20 00
"	Foreign Missionary Society, .	30 00
"	Seaman's Mission, Philadelphia,	20 00
"	City Mission,	22 29
	Balance cash in hand, .	20 52
		<hr/>
		\$770 13
		<hr/>

HENRY N. WILLIAMS,
Treasurer.

April 1, 1874.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DORCAS SOCIETY.

OFFICERS.

President—MRS. C. E. MURRAY.

Vice-President—MRS. GEORGE BOYD.

Treasurer—MISS AMELIA C. BISBING.

Secretary—MISS ANNE W. PEARSALL.

The annual meeting of our Dorcas Society was held Nov. 5, 1873. Since that time, we have had fifteen meetings, with an average attendance of six members.

We received several donations in money and materials, from members of our congregation,

There was much want among the poor the past winter, and we are thankful that we were enabled to contribute in a measure towards the relief of their sufferings.

We gave out $78\frac{1}{2}$ yds. muslin, $62\frac{1}{4}$ yds. calico, 46 yds. canton flannel, $12\frac{3}{4}$ yds. cloth, 6 yds. flannel, 7 prs. shoes, and 46 garments.

“Let us not be weary in well doing,” but remember, that “He that giveth to the poor, lendeth unto the Lord.”

A. W. PEARSALL,

April, 1874.

Secretary.

MISS A. C. BISBING, *Treasurer, in account with the
Dorcas Society of the Church of the Covenant.*

DR.

To Donations,	\$39 00
“ Subscriptions,	21 00
	<hr/>
	\$60 00
	<hr/>

CR.

By Cash paid for materials, as per bill, .	\$29 19
“ “ Shoes, as per bill, .	10 50
“ “ Sundries,	1 82
“ Balance,	18 49
	<hr/>
	\$60 00
	<hr/>
To balance in treasury,	\$18 49

April 29, 1874.

REPORT OF THE SEWING SCHOOL.

OFFICERS.

MISS GERTRUDE A. CLARKSON, *Superintendent.*

MISS MARY I. NATT, *Treasurer.*

MISS ANNE BULL, *Secretary.*

On the 8th of November, 1873, our school was re-opened with the Superintendent, six teachers, and forty-three scholars, and continued to meet every Saturday afternoon until April 25th, 1874; closing with eight teachers and seventy-five scholars.

During the session, several garments were distributed to those children who merited them by their industry and good conduct.

The school closed with a Festival, at which twenty-six prizes were given to the scholars, and an appropriate address delivered by the Rector. Each child was also presented with a growing flower. The school was not as large as usual this winter, which may be owing to the want of teachers, which, we hope, will not be the case in the future.

ANNE BULL,

Secretary.

MISS MARY I. NATT, *Treasurer, in account with the
Sewing School of the Church of the Covenant.*

DR.

To balance in hand,	\$10 30
“ Church Collection (in part),	8 33
“ Teachers’ Subscriptions,	4 00
“ Donations,	42 00
	<hr/>
	\$64 63
	<hr/>

CR.

By cash paid for supplies for the school, .	\$18 12
“ paid expenses of Festival,	36 75
“ balance in Treasurer’s hand,	9 76
	<hr/>
	\$64 63
	<hr/>

April 30, 1874.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

RECEIPTS.

From Collections,	\$387 63
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PAYMENTS.

To Episcopal Hospital,	\$174 00
“ Evangelical Educational Society,	77 30
“ Dorcas and Sewing Societies,	33 33
“ Missions,	35 00
“ Balance in hand,	68 00
	<hr/>
	\$387 63

GEORGE BOYD,

Treasurer.

April 1, 1874.

ABSTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTING WARDEN.

The receipts and payments for the year ending
March 1, 1874, were as follows :

General Fund.

RECEIPTS.

From Pew Rents,	.	.	.	\$4,678	65
Less discount allowed,				187	36
					<u>\$4,491 29</u>
" Collections,	.	.	.	534	58
" Subscriptions and Donations,	.	.	.	625	00
" Interest on Deposits,	.	.	.	8	22
					<u>\$5,659 09</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Salary of Rector,	.	.	.	.	\$2,500	00
" Sexton,	.	.	.	.	600	00
Temporary Loan returned,	.	.	.	.	208	34
Music, Organist, Singers, &c.,	.	.	.	.	1,043	75
Fuel,	.	.	.	.	268	80
Repairs to Church Building,	.	.	.	.	126	28
Renewal of Furnaces,	.	.	.	.	331	18
Insurance,	.	.	.	.	89	00
						<u>\$5,167 35</u>

Brought forward, .	\$5,167 35
Gas,	106 49
Convention Fund,	75 00
Water Rent,	5 00
Annual Subscription to Philadelphia Library Company,	5 00
Draining Cellar,	87 33
Incidental Expenses,	98 60
Total Expenditures,	<u>\$5,544 77</u>
Excess of Receipts in General Fund, .	\$114 32

RECAPITULATION.

General Fund Receipts during the year,	\$5,659 09
Deduct amount due March 1, 1873, .	1,048 10
	<u>\$4,610 99</u>
Payments,	5,544 77
Due by this Fund, March 1, 1874, .	<u>\$933 78</u>

Ground-Rent Fund.

RECEIPTS.

Subscriptions, as per Pew Rent Re- ceipts,	\$514 55
Collections and Donations,	318 22
From the Sunday-school Association,	135 33
	<u>\$968 10</u>

PAYMENTS.

Twelve months' Ground Rent,		
100 feet, @ \$8 50,	.	\$850 00
Premium on silver,	.	74 80
		<u>\$924 80</u>

Excess of Receipts in Ground-Rent Fund, \$43 30

Principal of the Ground-Rent.

The amount in this Fund, at last Report,		
was	.	\$20 00
The amount since received,	.	10 00
		<u>\$30 00</u>

Which is deposited in the Philadelphia Saving Fund.

The object of the fund is to raise a sufficient sum to buy the ground on which the Church is built; the amount received not being applicable to any other object.

The Sinking Fund.

At the last report, the amount on hand		
was	.	\$1,106 67
Paid during the year for interest,	.	60 00
Leaving the amount now on hand	.	<u>\$1,046 07</u>

JAMES A. KIRKPATRICK,
Accounting Warden.

Report of the Finance Committee.

The undersigned, Committee on Finance, have examined the Books and Vouchers of the Accounting Warden, for the year ending February 28th, 1874, and find the above balances to be correct.

ROBERT REED,
HENRY N. WILLIAMS, } *Committee.*

March 23, 1874.

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS.

Receipts as exhibited in the Account-		
ing Warden's Report, for the General		
Fund,	.	\$5,659 09
For the Ground-Rent Fund,	.	968 10
For the Principal of the Ground-Rent,	.	10 00
Receipts of the Sunday-school Associ-		
ation,	.	610 11
"	Communion Fund,	323 98
"	Benevolent Fund,	354 30
"	Dorcas Society,	35 00
"	Sewing School,	46 00
Total,		<u>\$8,006 58</u>

C. E. M.

CONCLUSION.

It is a matter for devout thanksgiving, that notwithstanding the unprecedented financial depression of the past winter, and the unusual expenses to which our Church was subjected, the report of the Accounting Warden shows in the general fund (after paying a loan of \$208.34 from last year), a balance of \$114.32. This is due to the general response of the congregation to appeals made from time to time, and to the commendable liberality of some of the members, who very willingly contributed to a fund, the object of which was to prevent any deficiency in the general expenses of the Church. The permanent subscriptions to the Ground-rent Fund amount to \$335, leaving a deficiency of about \$590, which is really the only serious hindrance to the financial prosperity of our Church. Again I would urge upon the congregation the necessity of some earnest and united effort to get rid of this hindrance, either by some organized endeavor to purchase the ground upon

which the Church stands, or by additional and increased subscriptions to meet the annual rental. Before another report is presented I hope that some plan will be in operation which will alleviate, if not remove, this hindrance under which our Church has been laboring from its very inception

The attendance upon our Wednesday evening lecture, during the past season, has been very gratifying indeed. I would like very much to see an improvement in this respect with reference to our Sunday evening service.

During the year we have lost, through a change of residence, the services of the Superintendent of our Sunday-schools, who, for more than six years, diligently and regularly occupied the position ; always active, interested, and untiring in every work and labor of love connected with the prosperity of the schools and of the Church, Mr. A. Kirkpatrick will long be missed from his accustomed place, and his removal from our midst greatly regretted. Such losses will at times occur—we have fewer to mourn over than most. We rejoice that we

have secured in his place one whose first and only experience in 'Sunday-school work has been in the schools connected with our Church, and whose aptness to teach at once indicated him as a suitable successor in the office of Superintendent; and I know that he, as well as the Rector himself, would be more encouraged if the congregation would feel and manifest more interest in the work of our schools.

And now, dear brethren, in the midst of the distractions with which our Church, and other Churches are agitated, let us cling with a firmer hold to Jesus, who is the same yesterday, to-day and forever. If the truth, which lies at the foundation of Christianity, could lose its hold on the minds of men, of course the Church and all positive religion would perish; but that truth cannot become obsolete. Doubt is of to-day—the truth is of and for all time. Let this inspire us with courage. The Church may have its bright days and its dark days; men's hearts may fail them with fear, when they see doubt and denial, and the follies and faults of Christian men; but it is an unrea-

sonable fear. The gospel of Christ, which has stood its ground against sin in so many minds, in all the varying forms of society, will stand firm in the future, "it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." If that gospel has ever corrected your mistakes and follies, believe, as you justly may, that it will do the same for the Church. If it has made advances in your own heart, believe that it can do the same in the world. Let your experience put new life into the promises of God, and the promises will put new life into you. The Church is ever coming back to the old principles and feeling, because the Bible is the same book—old, yet new—the treasure-house of spiritual power; and because when it is believed, the same old effects follow that showed themselves when Christ was first preached: "Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." As long as any Church stands upon that foundation it is immovable; and I am happy to state that the Church of the Covenant has ever held and taught the truth

as it is in Jesus ; in accordance with that truth it has interpreted the rites, institutions and usages of our liturgy, maintaining thus its character as a "Protestant Episcopal Church—Protestant in doctrine, Episcopal in polity, accepting the doctrines and regimen embodied in the standards inherited from the Church of England, as understood by those who compiled them. Our liturgy never needed an apology. It needs one now less than ever. We love it. Its sublime devotions, which have guided the prayers of believers for centuries, stir our hearts as no other human compositions can. It is the product of no one man, of no one generation. It embodies the tenderest contrition ; the loftiest peace ; the most fervent supplication, wrung out of the hearts of martyrs, during fifteen centuries, and molten anew in the furnace of the Reformation—gold purified seven times in the fire. Our name is significant of the spirit and design of our enterprise. A covenant God is our dependence ; the covenant of grace is our hope of glory, and our message to the

world ; a covenant of love would we make the bond of our union ; a covenant of unhesitating obedience to God, in every relation and interest of life, shall be the rule of our conduct."—[*Extract from Mr. Tyng's opening sermon in National Hall.*]

While we mourn over the divisions of the Church of Christ, and sigh for the time when the breaches of Zion shall be repaired, let us pray earnestly to the great Head of the Church, that He may revive the truth among us ; let us guard carefully against the *first* approaches of error, and not despise precautions against evils when only in the germ—then is the time to take care of the truth. Let us steadily and persistently resist anything that is in the least degree opposed to the simplicity and consistency of the institutions and usages of our Protestant Church ; anything like the most remote approach to conformity to that which our fathers rejected as Antichrist, lest approach, become embrace ; and embrace, bondage ; and bondage, death.

And, "now unto Him that is able to keep

you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory, with exceeding joy; to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

Affectionately, your Friend and Pastor,

CHARLES E. MURRAY.